would be considered for released on receipt of complete audited statements of expenditure on Plan component of NLEP from the State and a Certificate to the effect that this expenditure has not been met out of the Central Assistance in other health components.

Bidi Workers' Welfare Fund

848. **Shri Sushil Chandra Verma :** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a bidi workers' welfare fund was established in 1977;

(b) if so, the total amount collected upto March, 1991 and the amount spent out of it for Bidi workers' welfare;

(c) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has made available 12 acres of land for construction of a 50 bedded hospital for such workers in Sagar; and

(d) if so, the time by which this hospital is likely to be opened ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour (Shri K. Ramamurthy) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total amount collected upto 31-3-1991 is Rs. 70.09 crores. Total expenditure upto 31-3-1991 under the Fund is Rs. 42.13 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Construction of hospital building is a time consuming job, as it requires several formalities to be completed before start of construction work i.e. preparation/approval of estimates drawings and clearance of the project etc. etc. Therefore no time limit can be framed.

[*Translation*]

Scholarships to Tribal Students Seeking Admission in Indian Institute of Technology

849. **Shri Dileep Singh Bhurja :** Will the Minister of **Human Resource Development** be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of weak financial position of the students of tribal areas seeking admission in the Indian Institute of Technology, the Union Government propose to grant separate Central Scholarships to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of Human Resource Development (Shri Arjun Singh) : (a) to (c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. However, under the 'Post Matric Scholarship' Scheme, the eligible SC and ST students in the IITs undergoing undergraduate programmes are provided with free messing and a pocket allowance in lieu of Post Matric Scholarship.

[*English*]

Destruction of Gates at Wazirabad Barrage

850. **Shri Ram Vilas Paswan :** Will the Minister of **Urban Development** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of gates at Wazirabad barrage were destroyed on the same night recently under mysterious circumstances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated loss suffered by the Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking on this account;

(d) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Union Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken thereon ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Development (Shri M. Arunachalam): (a) and (b) The Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking has reported that 14 out of 17 weir gates were found bent, on January 2, 1991. These were bent to the extent varying from

12 mm. to 900 mm. Repair work has since been carried out and these gates are operational.

(c) The cost of repairs and strengthening of the existing gates and cost of providing new gates, stoplog gates including civil works has been estimated to Rs. 489 lakhs.

(d) and (e) The matter has been referred to Central Water Commission for examining the causes of the deflection of the gates and the report is awaited.

Refusal of Medical Assistance by Doctors of AIIMS

851. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan:
Shri Hari Kishore Singh:
Will the Minister of **Health and Family Welfare** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "AIIMS doctors ditch AIDS woman" appearing in Hindustan Times dated July 3, 1991;

(b) if so, whether the doctors of Gynaecology and Obstetrics Department of the AIIMS refused to treat a woman who was suspected to have been infected with AIDS; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Shrimati D. K. Thara Devi Siddhartha): (a) to (c) Government has seen the news-item captioned "AIIMS doctors ditch AIDS Women" appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 3-7-1991.

The Patient who was pregnant and HIV (Human Immuno Deficiency Virus) infected was first admitted in AIIMS on 24-5-91 and had received medical attention on a continuing basis. She was again admitted on 27-6-91 and Dr. S. Kumar, Retired Addl. Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of AIIMS conducted the delivery which took place on 30-6-91.

The Government has instituted a high level inquiry associating experts to examine the facts and circumstances under which it became necessary to seek the assistance of Dr. S. Kumar, for handling the delivery case and to review arrangements for dealing with AIDS/HIV positive cases in all the 13 hospitals including AIIMS specially identified for this purpose.

Agricultural Labour

852. **Shri N. Dennis:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state the steps taken to improve the living conditions of agricultural labour in the country ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour (Shri K. Ramamurthy): Various Labour Laws like Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, 1938, Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 exist to safeguard and protect the interests of Agricultural Labour. Besides, various schemes such as IRDP, Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, NREP, RLEGP aimed at upliftment of the poor and wage employment are being implemented. The Government constituted a National Commission on Rural Labour to go into the conditions of agriculture Labour and the Commission is expected to submit their Report this month.

A Central legislation to regulate employment, conditions of Service and Welfare Measures for the Agricultural Workers, is also under the consideration of Government.

Setting up of Navodaya Vidyalayas

853. **Shri K. Muraleedharan:** Will the Minister of **Human Resource Development** be pleased to state the number of Navodaya Vidyalayas being set up during the year 1991-92 and the location thereof ?